



EMPOWER MARYLAND ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2024

Sponsors: Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Crosby

A bill to conserve energy, lower bills, and reduce pollution that harms our health and planet.



What is EmPOWER Maryland?

SCAN ME!



The EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 created the EmPOWER program to incentivize energy efficiency and conservation efforts. EmPOWER has improved energy efficiency, which has saved utility customers money, reduced pollution, and helped protect the environment.

Since 2008, EmPOWER Maryland has:

- Created lifetime savings of over **\$12.7 billion from an investment of \$3.5 billion in efficiency.**
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of **at least 9.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, equal to taking 2 million cars off the road for a year.**
- **Provided Marylanders with free or discounted energy audits, weatherization, and efficient appliances** and provided businesses with discounts and incentives for energy efficient upgrades.

Our priorities:

- **Expand EmPOWER's successful discounts and rebates for energy audits, weatherization and efficient appliances** by adding new incentives for switching to efficient, electric appliances and heating.
- **Set pollution reduction targets.** The bill directs the Public Service Commission to set greenhouse gas emission reduction goals to align the program with the state's climate goals.
- **Deliver savings directly to Maryland households** by encouraging utilities to invest in in-home improvements and requiring them to achieve 80% of goals from in-building savings.
- **Expand access for low-income households** to state and federal funds for energy efficiency and whole-home retrofits by enabling fuel switching and hiring multilingual community outreach specialists.
- **Reduce cost to ratepayers** by rightsizing utility profits and ensuring any future incentives and penalties are tied to performance.
- **Stop spending ratepayer dollars on subsidies for polluting gas appliances and home heating.**

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Why energy efficiency matters

- **Saving money.** By reducing the amount of energy people consume, and reducing the amount of infrastructure needed to provide that energy, efficiency helps ratepayers pay less on their utility bills.
- **Reducing pollution.** Burning fossil fuels, both indoors and out, produces air pollution that can cause a range of health problems, from damage to the lungs and heart to cancer to mental health and cognitive issues.
- **Less greenhouse gas emissions.** By reducing fossil fuel use in buildings and from power plants, energy efficiency reduces greenhouse gas emissions and gets the state closer to our climate goals.
- **Making it easier to transition to renewable energy.** By reducing the amount of energy used in our homes, energy efficiency reduces the total amount of fossil fuel power that must be replaced by clean renewable sources, easing the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy.

Supported by:



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